

## Message Text

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ACTION FSI-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9390

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BCOM, KS

SUBJECT: FSI: COMMERCIAL LOCALS TRAINING PROGRAM

REF: STATE 066617

FOLLOWING RESPONDS TO REFTEL AND SUMMARIZES REQUESTED DATA  
ON THREE FSLs OF COMMERCIAL SECTION:

1. KIM YOUNG HIE: BORN SEPTEMBER 9, 1933, AT KYONGSANG PUK  
DO, SOUTH KOREA. HAS EXCELLENT COMMAND OF ENGLISH.  
GRADUATED FROM DANGKUK UNIVERSITY, SEOUL, WITH DEGREE IN LAW  
BUT HAS, HOWEVER, NEVER TAKEN BAR EXAMINATION. JOINED AID DAY  
AFTER GRADUCATION MORE THAN 19 YEARS AGO WHERE HE WORKED IN  
OFFICE OF ENGINEERING. CAME TO COMMERCIAL SECTION IN LATE  
1974 AND HAS WORKED PRIMARILY ON MAJOR PROJECTS AND DEVELOP-  
MENT OF EARLY WARNINGS. ALSO HANDLES MAJOR TOS, US INVESTMENT,  
ALL WITHIN MAJOR INDUSTRIAL SECTORS INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION AND  
MINING; TRANSPORTATION; MATERIALS HANDLING; IRON AND STEEL  
MILL EQUIPMENT. HAS PERFORMED WITH AID IN EXCEPTIONAL AND  
OUTSTANDING MANNER AND FOR LAST TWO YEARS WITHIN THAT AGENCY  
WAS SOLE PROGRAM SPECIALIST IN OFFICE OF ENGINEERING. HIS  
FIRST FEW MONTHS IN COMMERCIAL OFFICE HAVE INDICATED THAT  
MR. KIM WAS EXCELLENT CHOICE ON BASIS OF IMPORTANT CONTACTS,  
VAST KNOWLEDGE OF FIELDS IN WHICH MOST MAJOR PROJECTS LIE,  
AND ALMOST BILINGUAL ABILITY IN WRITTEN AND SPOKEN ENGLISH.

2. KIM PAING SUP: BORN JULY 11, 1934, IN OSAKA, JAPAN OF  
KOREAN PARENTS. RESIDENT IN KOREA SINCE 1946. SPEAKS ENGLISH  
FLUENTLY. HAS BEEN WITH USG 17 YEARS COMMENCING WITH AID IN  
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1958 WHERE HE WAS EMPLOYED AS ECONOMIC SPECIALIST, PROGRAM

SPECIALIST, AND PROGRAM ADVISOR FOR TRADE AND LOGISTICS. ATTENDED EIGHTH AID SUPPLY MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON JUNE 1966. COMPLETED USDOC/OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY PURCHASING CORRESPONDENCE COURSE IN 1969. DETAILED TO EMBASSY COMMERCIAL OFFICE IN 1972 AND RECEIVED PERMANENT ASSIGNMENT THERE 1973. IS CHIEF FSL IN SECTION WHOSE DUTIES INCLUDE MARKET RESEARCH, BUSINESS VISITOR ASSISTANCE, DEPUTY TRADE CENTER DIRECTOR, AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR MANY COMMODITY CATEGORIES AMONG WHICH ARE EDP, BUSINESS EQUIPMENT, SCIENTIFIC AND MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, ELECTRONICS, AND MEASURING AND CONTROL INSTRUMENTS. SINCE 1959 HIS ANNUAL EFFICIENCY REPORTS HAVE REFLECTED 13 OUTSTANDING AND THREE SUPERIOR RATINGS. HOLDS BACHELOR OF COMMERCE DEGREE FROM DANKUK UNIVERSITY, SEOUL.

3. KIM IL LAN: BORN MARCH 13, 1934, AT KYUNGBUK, SOUTH KOREA. HAS DEGREE FROM GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY. THREE YEARS PRIVATE BUSINESS EXPERIENCE AT KIA MOTORS; 13 YEARS WITH USG, BEGINNING WITH AID AS PROGRAM ASSISTANT IN MINING AND INDUSTRY SECTORS. ENGLISH IS EXCELLENT. CAME TO COMMERCIAL SECTION IN 1971 WHERE HE HAS PERFORMED OUTSTANDING SERVICE. HIS FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES ARE MARKET RESEARCH, BUSINESS VISITORS ASSISTANCE, INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES, DEFENSE INDUSTRIES, BUSINESS SERVICES, AND HANDLING ALL CUSTOMS MATTERS FOR POST'S TRADE CENTER. RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMODITY CATEGORIES INCLUDES SHIPBUILDING, METALWORKING, AUTOMOTIVE, AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY AND BUILDING MATERIALS. MR. KIM HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE FSL COMMERCIAL SPECIALIST CORRESPONDENCE COURSE.

4. ABOVE THREE CANDIDATES FOR SUBJECT TRAINING ALL EMINENTLY QUALIFIED TO MEET CRITERIA SET FORTH REFTEL. EACH PLAYS IMPORTANT ROLE WITHIN COMMERCIAL SECTION; EACH IS DEDICATED, LOYAL, AND HARDWORKING; AND CONTRIBUTION TO U.S. EXPORT EFFORT FROM EACH HAS BEEN SUPERIOR. COMMERCIAL SECTION AS WELL AS INDIVIDUAL CHOSEN WILL BENEFIT GREATLY FROM OUTLINED PROGRAM. ALL HAVE MANY YEARS' FUTURE SERVICE REMAINING WITH USG AND, TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, ALL INTEND CONTINUE IN PRESENT ROLES.

5. EXCEPT FOR SHORT SERVICE WITH COMMERCIAL SECTION, KIM  
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YOUNG HIE WOULD BE FIRST RECOMMENDATION. HOWEVER, WOULD PREFER MR. KIM TO UNDERTAKE COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENCE COURSE FOR FSLs DURING COMING YEAR AND, IF SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED, RECOMMEND HIM FOR NEXT WASHINGTON TRAINING COURSE.

6. FIRST RECOMMENDATION IS THEREFORE KIM IL LAN, AND AS ALTERNATE KIM PAING SUP. THIS WAS MOST DIFFICULT DECISION BUT FINALLY DECIDED ON BASIS THAT KIM IL LAN HAS NEVER VISITED

U.S. AND EXPOSURE WOULD MAXIMIZE HIS CONTRIBUTION TO PROGRAM  
AFTER RETURN TO KOREA.

7. KOREA AND U.S. NOW HAVE TWO-WAY TRADE EXCEEDING \$3  
BILLION. U.S. INVESTMENT CONTINUES TO FLOW TO KOREA. EXIM  
BANK, OPIC, IBRD, ADB, ETC. ALL ACTIVE HERE. CLOSE RELATION-  
SHIP BETWEEN KOREA AND U.S. DURING KOREAN WAR AND WITH AID  
PROGRAMS HAS ESTABLISHED SOUND AND IMPRESSIVE BUSINESS TIES.  
MAJOR COMPETITOR OF COURSE IS JAPAN BUT OTHER THIRD-COUNTRY  
COMPETITION INCREASING. LOCAL EMPLOYEES WITH SOUND, ON-THE-SPOT  
BACKGROUND WORKINGS OF USG AND U.S. INDUSTRY, TRADE, AND BANKING  
FACILITIES CONSIDERED OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE. URGE SELECTION  
OF KOREAN CANDIDATE KIM IL LAN.  
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